Selling Price of formulations by Pfizer

2202. SHRI NAND KISHORE BHATT: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 186 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 18th November, 1985 and state:

(a) what are the prices at which Pfizer is selling their formulations based on Oxytetracycline and its salts;

(b) since when the company is selling these formulations at their own prices;

(c) what are the grounds on which Pfizer challenged the fixation of prices by Government;

(d) what was the sales turn over of Pfizer for these formulations during the last three years, year-wise and what is the percentage of sales of these formulations to total sales turn over during the same period;

(e) whether it is a fact that this drug has been categorised as essential; and

(f) if so what is the mark up allowed on formulations and what mark up is enjoyed by the company?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) to (c) M|s. Pfizer are selling the Oxytetracycline formulations based on the decision of the Delhi High Court. The main ground on which the prices of bulk drug Oxytetracyline and its salts and the formulations based thereon were challenged is that the material based on which prices were fixed| revised were not disclosed to them.

(d) Sales turnover of formulations is not monitored.

(e) Oxytetracyline and its salts are specified under category II of Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1979.

(f) The mark up allowable under the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1979 is 55 per cent. It is difficult to say what is the mark-up in the present prices charged by the Company, as the prices were declared under Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1970.

झांसी में डायल प्रणाली वाले टेलीफोन

2203. **डा० गोविन्द दास रिछारिया:** क्या **संचार** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) झांसी में डायल प्रणाली वाले टेलीफोन आरम्भ करने के संबंध में अब तक क्या कार्यवाही की गई है ;

(ख) इस प्रणाली के कब तक शुरू होने की संभावना है; और

(ग) इस कार्य को शीघ्र पूरा करने के लिए सरकार क्या कदम उठा रही है ?

संचार मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री राम निवास मिर्धा): (क) झांसी में 18 करोड़ रुपये की लागत पर एक आटोमेटिक एक्सचेंज स्थापित करने की एक परियोजना को मंजूरी दे दी है। भवन निर्माण के लिये औपचारिकताएं पूरी की जा रही हैं ।

(ख) इस प्रणाली के आगामी तीन वर्षों मे चालू किए जाने की संभावना है ।

(ग) भवन के नक्शों को अंतिम रूप दे दिया गया है तथा अगले छः महीनों में भवन निर्माण शुरू हो जाने की संभावना है ।

Overcharging price of drugs by ASTRA-IDL

2204. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Astra-IDL was found over-charging the price of Ter-

butaline Injection and marketing Clofazine Caps without price approval;

(b) if so, when did it come to the notice of Government;

(c) whether any penal action was taken against the company as provided under the Drugs Price Control Order;

(d) what are the names of formulations which Astra-IDL are marketing under exempted category along with composition and therapeutic indication and selling price of each product during 1979 and on 31st October, 1985;

(e) whether it is also a fact that this company is marketing a number of formulations without price approval and if so, what are the names of those formulations; and

(f) why no action has been taken against this company despite the fact that they have violated a number of provisions of the Drugs Price Control Order, 1979?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS (SHRI R. K JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) to (c), (e) and (f) The Government is looking into the matter.

(d) As per the price list of the company submitted in January, 1985, they are not marketing any Category IV formulation.

Court cases relating to price fixation of multivitamins

2205. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that certain drug companies went to various High Court's on the issue of fixation of prices of multivitamin preparations;

(b) if so, names of each company and date;

(c) names of each product of each company along with composition, price fixed as well as selling price of each;

(d) what is the present status of each case;

(e) since when each of these companies is marketing these products at thir own price;

(f) what was the sales turn over of each product of each company during the last three years, year-wise;

(g) what was the selling price of each product before reducing the ingredients along with composition of each;

(h) whether it is a fact that these companies made huge unintended profits at the cost of consumer; and

(i) if so, what steps Government have taken to expedite the implementation of fair prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. After fixation of prices of reformulated multivitamin formulations on 12th August, 1983 M|s. Pfizer, Sandoz, Warner Hindustan, Parke Davis and M|s. Abbot filed Writ Petitions in the Bombay High Court and M|s. Biological Evans in the Andhra Pradesh High Court.

(c), (e) to (g) Over 700 formulations of about 50 companies are involved. Time and efforts involved in collecting the comprehensive details as asked for hundreds of multivitamin formulations would not be commensurate with the results likely to be achieved. According to the available information all except those who filed Writ Petitions have complied with the prices.

(h) Does not arise.

(d) and (i) Bombay High Court set aside Government orders in the case of M|s Abbot, Pfizer and Sandoz and directed the Government to hear these companies based on the material that might be submitted by the Companies and then pass the orders. Hearings have since been given and action to revise the prices is on. The remaining cases are yet to be disposed by the High Court.